

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In response to the rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §112(2), these claims have been amended to avoid the noted informalities and new claims 17-26 have been added.

The rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly anticipated by Ookawa '211 is respectfully traversed.

As explained in the specification, there have been problems in efficiently using the Elliptic Centric (or Swirl) and/or 3 Dtrics (or DRKS) encoding techniques. The applicant has described and claimed apparatus and method for using one or more pre-pulses in combination with the Swirl and/or DRKS encoding techniques in a manner that is particularly well-matched.

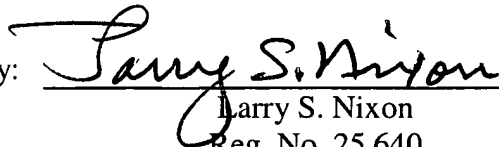
While Ookawa '211 may well teach a "segmented k-space acquisition scheme" as alleged by the Examiner, it does not teach Elliptic Centric (or Swirl) or 3 Dtrics (DRKS) encoding techniques – either alone or in combination with pre-pulses in anything that even approximates the applicant's claimed invention. It is impossible for Ookawa '307 to anticipate the applicant's claimed invention.

Accordingly, this entire application is now believed to be in allowable condition and a formal Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

OOKAWA
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Respectfully submitted,

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